

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the reference "XML Metadata Interchange (XMI), Proposal to the OMG OA&DTF RFP 3: Stream-based Model Interchange Format (SMIF)" dated July 6, 1998 (referred to as "XMI" by the Examiner), in view of the reference "Request for Proposal OMG Document ad/97-12-03, Object Management Group, Framingham Corporate Center" (referred to as "Framingham" by the Examiner).

The accompanying "Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.132" establishes that both cited references originated with Applicant.

Applicant, the sole named inventor of the above-identified application, was the first to introduce the concept of using UML, MOF and XML together to enable data interchange in a standardized way among software tools and repositories that may not be compliant to a common standard.

The relevant portions of the reference "XMI", originated with Applicant. The reference "XMI" was written under Applicant's leadership, and was published less than one year prior to the filing date of the above-identified application. Relevant portions of the later revision of the XMI Proposal dated November 11, 1998 also originated with Applicant.

The reference "Framingham" is a request for proposal, which called for the submission of the reference "XMI". Applicant participated in writing and defining this reference "Framingham". The relevant portions of "Framingham" cited by the Examiner (page 20 lines 10-22) originated with Applicant. Applicant respectfully submits that the reference "Framingham" does not disclose Applicant's invention.

In view of the above remarks and the Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.132, Applicant respectfully submits that the two cited references cannot be used as prior art against Applicant's invention.

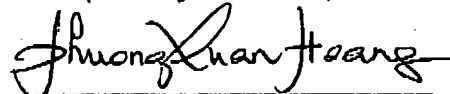
Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of Claims 1-17 be withdrawn. Allowance of Claims 1-17 at an early date is solicited.

If there are any fees due as a result of this amendment, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 19-3790.

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Respectfully submitted,



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